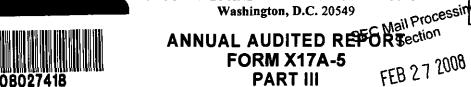
### **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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8- 65365



**FACING PAGE** 

Washington, DC

FEB 27 2008

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	January 1, 2007	AND ENDING	December 31, 2007
	MM/DD/YY		MM/DD/YY
A. REG	ISTRANT IDENTIFIC	CATION	
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:	•		
Mercanti Securities, LLC			OFFICIAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI	NESS: (Do not use P.O. B	lox No.)	FIRM ID. NO.
60 South Sixth Street, Suite 3720			
	(No. and Street)		
Minneapolis	Minnesota	_	55402
(city)	(State)		(Zip Code)
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PER	RSON TO CONTACT IN	REGARD TO THIS	REPORT
Cynthia M. Johnson		(61	2)-333-0130 x 224
		(Ar	ea Code—Telephone No.)
B. ACCO	DUNTANT IDENTIFI	CATION	
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT who	se opinion is contained in	this Report*	
Lurie Besikof Lapidus and Company, LLP			
(Name-	-il individual, state last, first, middle	name)	
2501 Wayzata Boulevard	Minneapolis	Minnesota	55405
(Address)	(City)	(State)	Zip Code)
CHECK ONE:		PH	OCESSED
<ul> <li>✓ Certified Public Accountant</li> <li>✓ Public Accountant</li> </ul>		M	AR 1 1 2008 /
Accountant not resident in United S	tates or any of its possessi	ons	HOMSON
	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	<u>-</u>	INANCIAL



<sup>\*</sup>Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

### OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, James A. D'Aquila	, swear (or affirm) that, to the
	ial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
Mercanti Securities, LLC	, as of
	correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company any proprietary interest in any account classified soley as that of
CYNTHIA M JOHNSON NOTARY PUBLIC - MINNESOTA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 1-31-2010	Signature Chief Exerctive Officer Title
Notary Public  This report** contains (check all applicable boxes):  (a) Facing page.  (b) Statement of Financial Condition.	
	artners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital. Claims of Creditors. ments Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3. equirements Under Rule 15c3-3. In of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the
solidation.  (1) An Oath or Affirmation.  (m)A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.  (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to	exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

# Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

**December 31, 2007** 

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#### Independent Auditor's Report

The Member Mercanti Securities, LLC Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Mercanti Securities, LLC (Company), a wholly-owned subsidiary, as of December 31, 2007, and the related statements of operations, changes in member's equity and cash flows for the year then ended that you are filing pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mercanti Securities, LLC as of December 31, 2007, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Company, LLP

Lurie Besikof Lapidue & Company, LSP

February 22, 2008

phone fax 612.377.4404 612.377.1325

address

2501 Wayzata Boulevard Minneapolis, MN 55405

website

www.lblco.com

### **Statement of Financial Condition**

December 31	2007
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 204,245
Accounts receivable	316,030
Prepaid expenses	11,058
Total Assets	\$ 531,333
Member's Equity	\$ 531,333

### **Statement of Operations**

Year Ended December 31	2007
Revenue	
Advisory fees	\$20,880,000
NASD/NYSE consolidation refund	35,000
Interest income	66,216
Total Revenue	20,981,216
Operating Expenses	15,425,720
Net Income	\$ 5,555,496

Statement of Changes in Member's Equity

Description	2007
Balance, December 31, 2006	\$ 1,730,944
Net income	5,555,496
Distributions to member	(6,755,107)

### **Statement of Cash Flows**

Year Ended December 31	2007
Operating Activities	
Net income	\$ 5,555,496
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	
Due from Parent	302,048
Accounts receivable	879,493
Prepaid expenses	(4,391)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	6,732,646
Financing Activities	
Distributions to member	(6,755,107)
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(22,461)
Cash and Cash Equivalents	
Beginning of year	226,706
End of year	\$ 204,245

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### 1. Description of Business and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Description of Business**

Mercanti Securities, LLC (Company) is a securities broker/dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mercanti Group, LLC (Parent). The Company primarily provides merger and acquisition advisory services. The Company shares office space with its Parent in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Los Angeles, California.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that may affect the reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include money market accounts and highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less.

#### Credit Risk

The Company maintains bank deposit accounts which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and does not believe it is exposed to any significant credit risk on cash.

#### Revenue Recognition

Advisory fees are recognized primarily as transactions are completed and services are rendered.

#### **Accounts Receivable**

Management reviews individual accounts as they become past due to determine collectability. An allowance for doubtful accounts is adjusted periodically based on management's consideration of past due accounts. Individual accounts are charged against the allowance when collection efforts have been exhausted. Management considers all accounts to be fully collectable and thus no allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded.

#### 2. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission's Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of a minimum amount of net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, not exceed 15 to 1. The rule also provides that equity capital may not be withdrawn or cash dividends paid if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10 to 1. At December 31, 2007, net capital under the rule was \$204,245 and net capital was in excess of the required minimum net capital by \$199,245. There was no aggregate indebtedness.

#### **Notes to Financial Statements**

#### 3. Income Taxes

No provision for income taxes is presented in these financial statements as income or loss is includable in the member's income tax return.

#### 4. Related Party Transactions

The Company has a cost-sharing agreement with its Parent to share expenses for office space, equipment, personnel and other services based on estimated usage. Effective March 31, 2007, the agreement was revised to require a minimum monthly expense allocation of \$9,094. Total shared expenses incurred under this agreement was approximately \$114,300 in 2007. The Company is responsible for its own direct expenses.

#### 5. Concentration

Two clients comprised approximately 69% and 13% of advisory fees revenue in 2007.

### Independent Auditor's Report on Supplementary Information Required by Rule 17a-5 of the Securities and Exchange Commission

The Member Mercanti Securities, LLC Minneapolis, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Mercanti Securities, LLC (Company) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, and have issued our report thereon dated February 22, 2008. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule on page 9 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Company's management. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Company, LLP

Lurie Besikof Lapidue & Company, LSP

February 22, 2008

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2501 Wayzata Boulevard Minneapolis, MN 55405

website

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Computation of Net Capital and Aggregate Indebtedness Under Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission

Year Ended December 31	2007
Net Capital	
Member's equity	\$ 531,333
Nonallowable assets:	
Accounts receivable	(316,030)
Prepaid expenses	(11,058)
Net Capital	\$ 204,245
Computation of Net Capital Requirement	
Net capital	\$ 204,245
Minimum net capital required (6-2/3% of aggregate indebtedness	
or \$5,000, whichever is greater)	5,000
Excess net capital	\$ 199,245
Aggregate Indebtedness	
Total liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>
Ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital	
Reconciling Items to the Company's Computation Included in Part II of Form X-17a-5 as of December 31, 2007	
Net capital as reported by the Company	\$ 204,245
Net audit adjustments	
Net Capital	\$ 204,245

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Required by SEC Rule 17a-5(g)(1) for a Broker-Dealer Claiming an Exemption from SEC Rule 15c3-3

The Member Mercanti Securities, LLC Minneapolis, Minnesota

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Mercanti Securities, LLC (Company) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Company's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company including consideration of control activities for safeguarding securities. This study included tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g) in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons and recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13
- 2. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives.

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Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control and the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first and second paragraphs and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. However, we identified a deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness, as defined above, and communicated it in writing to management and those charged with governance on February 22, 2008.

#### Material Weakness

The Company is expected to establish internal controls over financial statement reporting that provide reasonable assurance that its financial statements are fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Company has not established such control procedures over financial statement reporting.

These conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing, and extent of the procedures to be performed in our audit of the financial statements of Mercanti Securities, LLC as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007, and this report does not affect our report thereon dated February 22, 2008.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2007, to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Member, management, the SEC, and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Company, LLP

Lucie Besikof Lapidue & Company LSP

February 22, 2008

